

From: Vicki Halmen
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2020 4:46 PM
To: Marie Rodgers <marier@ipswichma.gov>
Subject: Essex Pastures

Good Afternoon Marie,

I have reviewed the most recent submittal for the proposed Essex Pastures development and have the following initial comments/questions:

- Detailed information related to the water needs of the pool/hot tub area should be provided (pool capacity, how it will be filled, refilled, maintenance practices, etc.)
- A reference document should be cited for how the water use per plant was calculated – amount of water to establish plantings would be greater in drought conditions – this should be addressed in calculations with assumptions stated
- Not all plantings listed are drought tolerant. Those that are not are native. A breakdown of water needs per plant species should be provided
- Lawn area was increased from 1 to 2 acres. What type of grass is proposed? Is it drought tolerant? Will it be watered? Lawn area should be minimized.
- How will all vegetation be watered? In-ground irrigation via municipal water?
- Is watering expected to continue after plants are established?
- It should be anticipated that the town will impose water restrictions during the summer months. This would prohibit outdoor watering of plantings by all means except hand held hose. The applicant should avoid planting during summer months and submit a watering plan to detail the means by which the proposed landscaping shall be watered (municipal water via in ground irrigation? Stormwater collected and stored in cistern and distributed in dedicated irrigation piping – not connected to municipal piping?)
- A comprehensive water use plan should be provided for the entire development, including buildings and pool citing data sources (fixture specifications)
- The applicant should detail all conservation measures to be incorporated into the project to reduce water use with expected water savings calculated with supporting documentation
- Water and sewer infrastructure shall conform to Town of Ipswich Rules and Regulations (fire hydrants shall be Darling B-62-B, all valves open left, etc.)
- Domestic water and fire sprinkler services to each building should be separate services, not combined.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Should you or the Board have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Best Regards,

Vicki Halmen
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